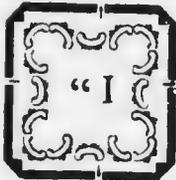


II CORINTH. V. 6.

Therefore we are always confident; knowing that whilst we are at Home in the Body, we are absent from the Lord.



IN the World ye shall have Tribulation"---was one of the last Declarations of our blessed Saviour to his Apostles. He foresaw the Trials that awaited them---that neither the Innocence of Life which distinguished them, nor the Purity and salutary Tendency of the Doctrines they taught, could defend them from Obloquy and Persecution. Of this he warned them, that they might be prepared for those afflicting Events. He assured them that the World would "hate and persecute them---" yea, the Time would come that whosoever killed "them would think he did God Service."

THESE Predictions were all literally verified. The Apostles and other primitive Christians suffered whatever could be inflicted by unbounded Malice and Virulence. They were loaded with opprobrious Calumnies; the sanguinary Decrees of the abandoned Jews and idolatrous Heathens were executed against them with the most savage and unrelenting Cruelty, as the *Acts of the Apostles* and other ecclesiastical Records amply testify. To be a Christian was then the same as to be an Object
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